

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 30, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 30

Introduced by Assembly Member Berg

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Adams, Aghazarian, Anderson, Arambula, Bass, Beall, Benoit, Berryhill, Blakeslee, Brownley, Caballero, Charles Calderon, Carter, Cook, Coto, Davis, De La Torre, De Leon, DeSaulnier, DeVore, Duvall, Dymally, Emmerson, Eng, Evans, Feuer, Fuentes, Fuller, Gaines, Galgiani, Garcia, Garrick, Hancock, Hayashi, Hernandez, Horton, Houston, Huff, Huffman, Jones, Karnette, Keene, Krekorian, La Malfa, Laird, Leno, Levine, Lieber, Lieu, Ma, Maze, Mendoza, Mullin, Nakanishi, Nava, Niello, Nunez, Parra, Portantino, Price, Sharon Runner, Ruskin, Salas, Saldana, Silva, Smyth, Solorio, Spitzer, Swanson, Torrico, Villines, and Wolk)

July 2, 2007

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 30—Relative to the Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Prevention, Education, and Research Act of 2007.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 30, as amended, Berg. Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Prevention, Education, and Research Act of 2007.

This measure would respectfully memorialize the Congress and the President of the United States to enact H.R. 741, the Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Prevention, Education, and Research Act of 2007, which would provide funding for additional prevention, education, treatment, and research efforts relating to Lyme and other tick-borne diseases.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Lyme disease is a common but frequently
2 misunderstood illness that, if not caught early and treated properly,
3 can cause serious health problems; and

4 WHEREAS, Lyme disease is a bacterial infection that is usually
5 transmitted by a tick bite, and early signs of infection may include
6 rash and flu-like symptoms such as fever, muscle aches, headaches,
7 and fatigue; and

8 WHEREAS, Although Lyme disease can be treated with
9 antibiotics if caught early, the disease often goes undetected
10 because it mimics other illnesses and this may be misdiagnosed;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Lyme disease, if untreated, can lead to severe heart,
13 neurological, eye, and joint problems because the bacteria can
14 affect many different organs and organ systems; and

15 WHEREAS, Although Lyme disease accounts for 90 percent
16 of all vector-borne infections in the United States, the ticks that
17 spread the disease also spread other diseases such as ehrlichiosis,
18 babesiosis, and anaplasmosis; and

19 WHEREAS, Three new borrelial species belonging to the Lyme
20 disease spirochetal complex have been described recently,
21 increasing the number of these bacteria known to be from
22 California to five and making California the locus of more distinct
23 species than any other geographical area in the United States; and

24 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
25 (CDC) indicates that the reported cases of Lyme disease are only
26 10 percent of the actual cases that meet surveillance criteria; and

27 WHEREAS, Persistence of symptomatology in many patients
28 without reliable testing makes treatment of patients more difficult;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, The Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Prevention,
31 Education, and Research Act of 2007 has been introduced to the
32 110th Congress of the United States as H.R. 741 (Smith, R-NJ);
33 and

34 WHEREAS, H.R. 741 would advance the treatment of, and cure
35 for, Lyme and other tick-borne diseases by expanding federal
36 efforts concerning prevention, education, treatment, and research
37 activities relating to Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, providing
38 authorization for the appropriation of twenty million dollars
39 (\$20,000,000) for each of the federal fiscal years 2008 through
40 2012 for these activities, requiring the Secretary of Health and

1 Human Services to annually report to the Congress of the United
2 States on these activities and make recommendations for further
3 research and education; and

4 WHEREAS, H.R. 741 would also establish a Tick-Borne
5 Diseases Advisory Committee within the Office of the Secretary
6 of Health and Human Services; now, therefore, be it

7 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*
8 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature respectfully memorializes
9 the Congress and the President of the United States to enact the
10 Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Prevention, Education, and Research
11 Act of 2007, H.R. 741; and be it further

12 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
13 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
14 States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the
15 Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and
16 Representative from California in the Congress of the United
17 States.